

Executive Proclamation

State of South Dakota

Office of the Governor

Whereas, The United States Department of Agriculture (USDA) Rural Development is an important partner in South Dakota's growth and success; and,

Whereas, Rural Development provides valuable loan and grant programs and technical assistance to increase economic opportunity and improve the quality of life for rural residents, as well as finance and foster growth in homeownership, business development, and critical community and technology infrastructure; and,

Whereas, Rural Development invested more than \$255 million in fiscal year 2007 and \$1.9 billion over the past 10 years in South Dakota's economy; and,

Whereas, Rural Development provides full-time jobs for 72 South Dakotans and many additional jobs with other public support organizations that are funded with Rural Development dollars; and,

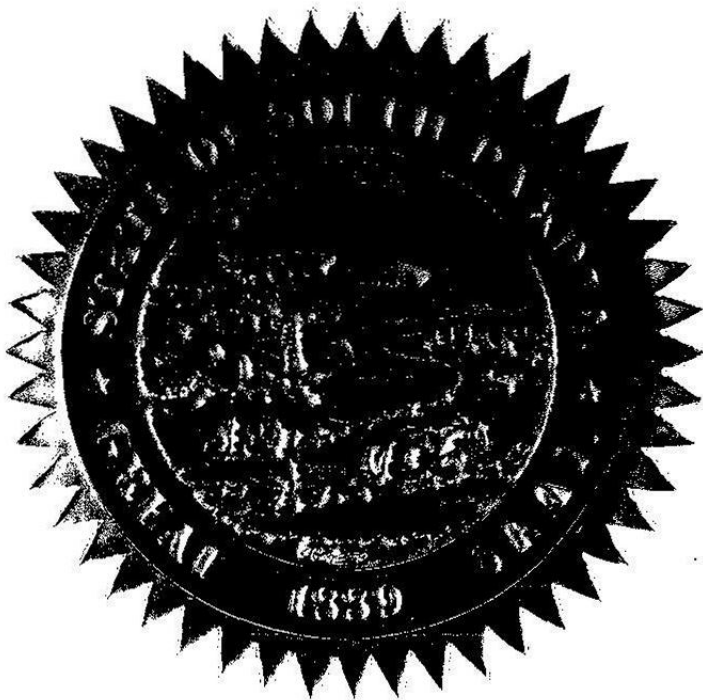
Whereas, Rural Development employees and their families make important contributions to their communities through volunteerism, leadership in school and civic organizations, and other economic benefits; and,

Whereas, Rural Development is becoming well known in the public's eye as the agency with one vision, one mission – "*Committed to the future of rural communities*":

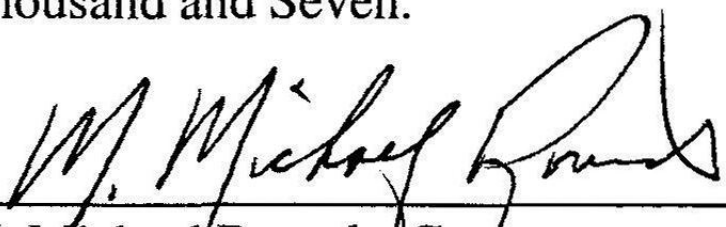
Now, Therefore, I, M. Michael Rounds, Governor of the state of South Dakota, do hereby proclaim October 18, 2007, as

USDA RURAL DEVELOPMENT DAY


in South Dakota.



In Witness Whereof, I have hereunto set my hand and caused to be affixed the Great Seal of the state of South Dakota, in Pierre, the Capital City, this Fourth Day of October in the Year of Our Lord, Two Thousand and Seven.


M. Michael Rounds, Governor

Attest:


Chris Nelson, Secretary of State